

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action mailed February 9, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 31-58 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). In the Decision on Appeal,¹ the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences ("Board") affirmed the rejections of claims 31, 32, 35-45, and 47-58 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), reversed the rejections of dependent claims 33 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and rejected medium claims 44-56 on new grounds under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Applicant respectfully traverses all of the above rejections. However, to advance prosecution, Applicant amends independent claim 31 to include the subject matter of dependent claim 33 found allowable by the Board, amends independent claim 44 to include the subject matter of dependent claim 46 found allowable by the Board, and similarly amends independent claims 57 and 58. Claims 33 and 46 have thus been canceled. Applicant further amends claims 44, 45, and 47-56 to each recite a "non-transitory computer-readable medium" to overcome the Board's rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests timely allowance of all pending claims.

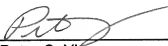
¹ The Final Office Action and the Decision on Appeal may contain statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Final Office Action or the Decision on Appeal.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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